SEG news release

Society of Exploration Geophysicists

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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MONTHLY SEISMIC CREW COUNT

(Month of July)

According to the Society of Exploration Geophysicists' latest report, the number of seismic land crews and marine vessels searching for oil and gas in the U.S. and U.S. waters decreased during July. The land crew total increased by two to 89, and the marine crew total decreased for the fourth consecutive month. The number of marine crews decreased in July by five, a net total decrease of three crews, for a total of 105 crews.

The July total (105) represents a decrease of 3% from last month, a 19% decrease from July, 1990, a 19% decrease from July, 1989, a 44% decrease from July, 1988, a 43% decrease from July, 1987, a 34% decrease from July, 1986, and **a decrease of 74% from the same month in 1985.**

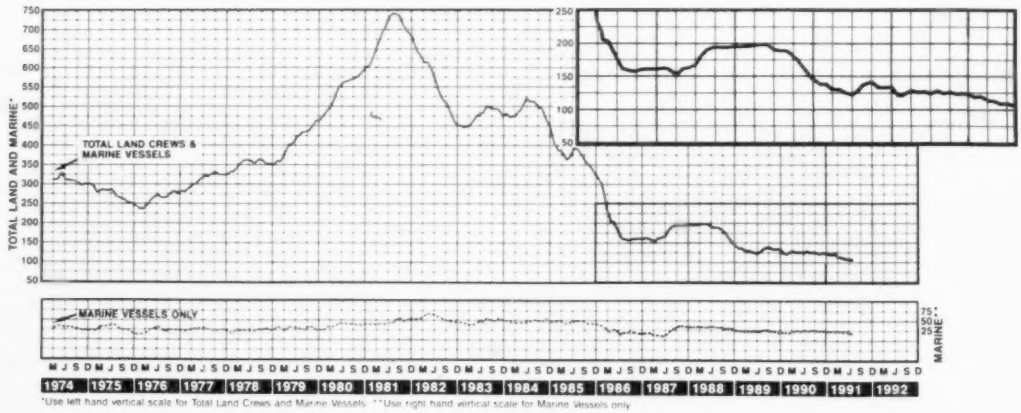
During July, four contractors were operating eight of the 84 land crews and two of the fourteen marine vessels on a speculative basis.

TOTAL LAND & MARINE CREWS:	This Month 105	Last Month 108	July'90 129	July'89 129	July'88 186	July'87 183	July'86 158	July'85 397

	LAND CREWS								MARINE VESSELS							
	This Mo.	Last Mo.	July 1990	July 1989	July 1988	July 1987	July 1986	July 1985	This Mo.	Last Mo.	July 1990	July 1989	July 1988	July 1987	July 1986	July 1985
34 Contr's:	84	82	97	98	143	145	121	317	14	19	21	18	23	21	17	41
3 Oil Co's:	5	5	8	9	15	14	17	33	2	2	2	3	4	3	3	6
1 Gov't:	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	0
TOTALS	89	87	105	107	158	159	138	350	16	21	24	22	28	24	20	47

SEISMIC CREW COUNT

(The leading indicator of oil and gas exploration activity.)


TOTAL LAND AND MARINE*
TOTAL LAND CREWS & MARINE VESSELS
MARINE VESSELS ONLY
MARINE**
1974 1975 1976 1977 1978 1979 1980 1981 1982 1983 1984 1985 1986 1987 1988 1989 1990 1991 1992
*Use left hand vertical scale for Total Land Crews and Marine Vessels. **Use right hand vertical scale for Marine Vessels only.

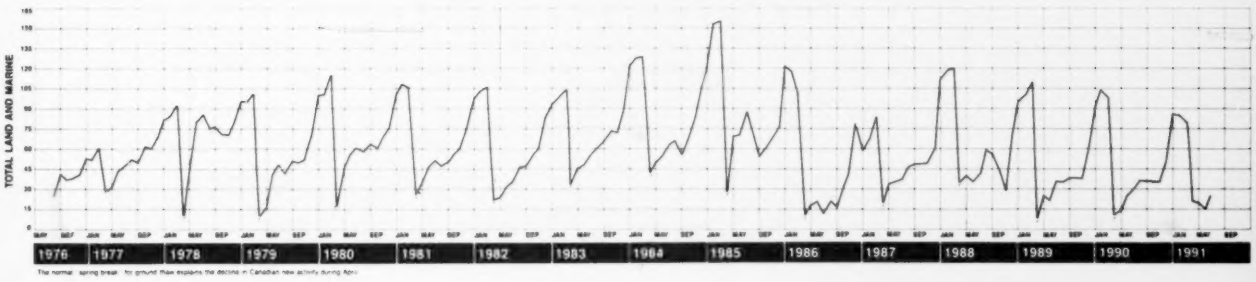
*Results of SEG's Seismic Crew Count of land and marine vessels engaged in exploration for oil and gas in the USA and USA waters, including Alaska, for the month indicated. These figures are compiled from data reported by oil companies operating company-owned seismic exploration crews and vessels and by contract seismic exploration companies. Special significance is attached to seismic crew activity since it is recognized as the leading indicator of all petroleum exploration activity.

CANADIAN SEISMIC CREW COUNT

July, 1991 (June figures in parentheses)

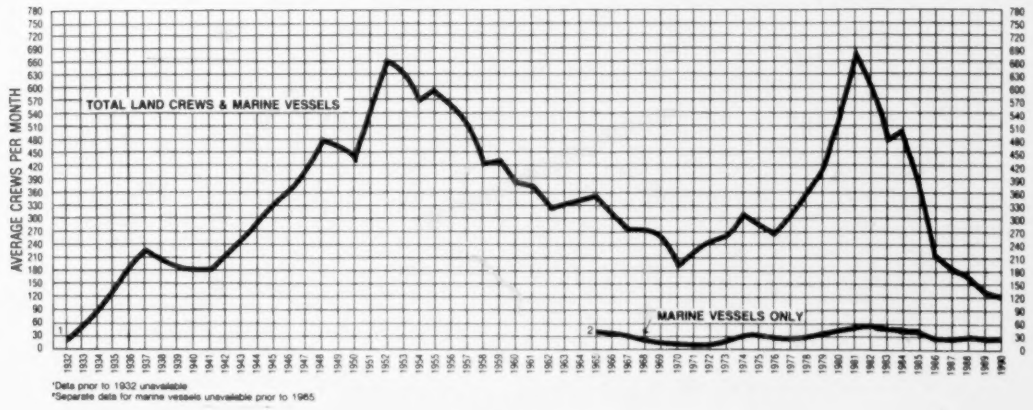
	Land Crews	Marine Crews
18 Contractors:	23 (15)	3 (0)
0 Oil Companies:	0 (0)	0 (0)
Totals:	23 (15)	3 (0)

CANADIAN SEISMIC CREW COUNT
(The leading indicator of oil and gas exploration activity.)



SEG's monthly USA Seismic Crew survey was instigated in 1974 at the request of the United States' Federal Energy Administration. The report is currently submitted to the U.S. Department of Energy.

HISTORY OF SEISMIC EXPLORATION IN THE UNITED STATES
(Seismic crews searching for oil & gas.)



*Data prior to 1932 unavailable
*Separate data for marine vessels unavailable prior to 1965